

Message Text

PAGE 01 KAMPAL 01573 090624 Z

15

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EUR-25 NEA-10 EB-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 RSR-01 /132 W

----- 011210

R 081400 Z MAY 73 ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2479

UNCLAS KAMPALA 1573

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV PINS PINT PFOR UG

SUBJECT: GENERAL AMIN'S REMARKS TO BREAKFAST MEETING WITH
UGANDAN OFFICIALS

SUMMARY. PRESIDENT AMIN MET EARLY A. M. MAY 7 WITH HIS CABINET, SENIOR ARMY OFFICERS, UGANDAN AMBASSADORS RECALLED FOR BRIEFINGS AND EX- MINISTERS WHO HAD BEEN ON LEAVE FOR TWO MONTHS. HE TOLD LAST- NAMED GROUP SOME OF THEM MAY NOT BE IN NEW GOVERNMENT TO BE FORMED SHORTLY AND "98 PER CENT" WHO ARE RETAINED WILL NOT GO TO THEIR FORMER MINISTRIES. FOR PRESENT THEY WILL BE FORMED INTO TWO COMMITTEES WORKING OUT OF PRESIDENT' S OFFICE, DEALING WITH TAKEN- OVER BRITISH FIRMS AND WITH BUSINESSES LEFT BEHIND BY NON- CITIZEN ASIANS. OTHER SUBJECTS COVERED BY GENERAL REPORTED BELOW. END SUMMARY.

1. GENERAL PRAISED ACTING MINISTERS JR IDEAS THEY HAVE GIVEN HIM ON REORGANIZING COUNTRY, WHEREAS FORMER MINISTERS WERE " YES MEN" WHO WANTED HIM TO FAIL. PRESIDENT SAID HE WOULD NOT HAVE ANYONE IN GOVERNMENT WHO IS A COWARD AND FEARS GIVING ORDERS, NOR THOSE WHO DRINK TOO MUCH AND GIVE AWAY STATE SECRETS. HE SAID SOME MINISTERS WHO RESIGNED WERE USELESS OR CONFUSED BY IMPERIALISTS. AMIN THREATENED TO JAIL ANY RESIGNED MINISTERWHO GOES AROUND VILLAGES CLAIMING HE WAS FIRED FOR THIS OR THAT REASON. HE ALSO ACCUSED PEOPLE, INCLUDING MINISTERS AND HIGH RANKING GOU OFFICIALS, WHO OBTAIN EXCESS MONEY FROM

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 KAMPAL 01573 090624 Z

BANKS TO IMPORT GOODS AND BANK THE SURPLUS ABROAD. MOST OF PEOPLE IN HIGH GOVERNMENT POSITIONS ARE LAZY, HE SAID, ARRIVE LATE FOR WORK, AND INSTEAD OF CONCENTRATING ON THEIR DUTIES THEY

RUN UP " TERRIBLE" TELEPHONE BILLS LOOKING AFTER THEIR FARMS,
INDUSTRIES AND BUSINESSES.

2. PRESIDENT SAID SOME MINISTERS AND DIPLOMATS WERE NOT HONEST.
HE CRITICIZED THOSE WHO RESIGNED WHILE ABROAD, " AS IF THEY HAVE
COMMITTED ANY CRIMES," AND SAID THEY COULD RESIGN HERE AND WERE
FREE TO TRAVEL ABROAD WHEREVER THEY LIKE. HE LABELLED AMB.
BARIGYE " DISLOYAL AND DISHONEST TO HIS OWN COUNTRY." AND CHARGED
THAT HE LEFT HIS POST UNDER FALSE PRETENSE OF RETURNING TO UGANDA
ON LEAVE, OBTAINING 10,000 SHILLINGS FROM HIS FINANCIAL ATTACHE
AS LEAVE PAY PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE (PAYMENT HAS BEEN STOPPED ON
CHECK). AMIN RECALLED THAT BARIGYE HAD EARLIER GIVEN SPEECHES
PRAISING GOVERNMENT. HE SAID BARIGYE WAS CONFUSED BY IMPREIALIST
PROPAGANDA. STILL, HE SAID, HE HAS NOTHING AGAINST BARIGYE,
HE CAN RETURN TO UGANDA AND FOREIGN MINISTRY SHOULD NOT " INVESTI-
GATE" HIM.

3. AMIN PRAISED DIPLOMATS PRESENT, SINGLING OUT COL. ONDOGA
AND BRIG. OPOLOT FOR COVERING SO MANY COUNTRIES. HE SAID
SOME DIPLOMATS HAD BEEN TOO LONG IN ONE POST AND WOULD BE
TRANSFERRED. SERIES OF BRIEFINGS FOR DIPLOMATS WAS OUTLINED.

4. GENERAL ONCE AGAIN CRITICIZED BRITISH PRESS PROPAGANDA
AGAINST UGANDA. HE SAID IF BRITISH WANT COMPENSATION THEY HAD
BETTER " GUARD" HIM SO THAT NOTHING HAPPENS TO HIM.

5. EXPLAINING " GENERAL IDI AMIN OPERATION" ANNOUNCED IN HIS
MAY DAY SPEECH, PRESIDENT SAID IT INCLUDES EXPULSION ISRAELIS
AND NON- CITIZEN ASIANS, DECLARATION OF ECONOMIC WAR, MAFUTA
MINGI OPERATION, AND OTHER ASPECTS INCLUDING CRUSHING OF THE
INVASION. HE " CORRECTED" IMPRESSION THAT IT IS A RENAMING
OF THE ECONOMIC WAR.

6. OTHER TOPICS COVERED WERE REPETITIONS OF PAST STATEMENTS.
KEELEY

UNCLASSIFIED

NMAFVVZCZ

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 15 APR 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973KAMPAL01573
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: KAMPALA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730561/dcbcjaaw.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRETS.
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRETS. <jms 19990422 DOCUMENT NOTED AS UNCLASSIFIED>
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15-Oct-2001 by kuehnbc0>; APPROVED <15 FEB 2002 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 19990422
Subject: GENERAL AMIN'S REMARKS TO BREAKFAST MEETING WITH UGANDAN OFFICIALS
TAGS: PGOV, PINS, PINT, PFOR, UG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005